



VIA ECFS

October 13, 2015

Hon. Tom Wheeler, Chairman
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel
Commissioner Ajit Pai
Commissioner Michael O'Reilly
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Re: *Applications of Charter Communications, Inc., Time Warner Cable Inc., and Advance/Newhouse Partnership for Consent to Transfer Control of Licenses and Authorizations*, MB Docket No. 15-149.

Dear Mr. Chairman and Commissioners:

Connect South Carolina is a non-profit initiative dedicated to promoting and advancing the access, adoption, and use of broadband technology. Since 2010, we have been assessing the broadband infrastructure in the state, studying gaps in broadband adoption, and working directly with local communities to create community technology plans that help them take advantage of the benefits of broadband technology.

Unfortunately, South Carolina remains one of the most disconnected states in the country. According to U.S. Census American Community Survey 2014, 68.1% of South Carolinians have adopted broadband at home, lower than the national average of 75.1%. The broadband adoption gap in South Carolina is particularly large for low-income households—Connect South Carolina surveys estimate that only 37% of all households in South Carolina with income at below \$25,000 per year have home broadband service.

As a result, Connect South Carolina welcomes the proposal by Charter, Time Warner, and Bright House Networks to extend Bright House's low-cost broadband adoption program to the entire merged company's footprint. We estimate that there are over 300,000 households in the proposed New Charter broadband footprint in South Carolina with household income of less than \$25,000 per year. These households would benefit greatly were a targeted, low-cost broadband offer be made available to them.

Connect South Carolina's parent company, Connected Nation, has filed a letter in this proceeding describing the potential public interest benefits of the proposed adoption program. Connect South Carolina strongly agrees with this filing and urges the Commission to take those benefits into consideration in its review.

Sincerely,

S/James Stritzinger

James Stritzinger
Executive Director
Connect South Carolina